

VZCZCXRO0651

PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHDA RUEHDF RUEHFL RUEHIK RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHLN  
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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0864  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY  
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS PRAGUE 000734

SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EEB MLURIE AND JSPECK  
STATE PLEASE PASS TO USAID FOR BHAMMINK  
USDA FOR FAS/GSM WK MILLER AND FAS/OCRA DSALMON, BBAYSINGER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAGR](#) [ECON](#) [ETRD](#) [TBIO](#) [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [EZ](#)

SUBJECT: CZECH RESPONSE: UPDATE AND ACTION REQUEST ON  
PROPOSED GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD (GPAF)

REF: SECSTATE 123480

(U) This message is sensitive but unclassified. Please  
protect accordingly.

1. (U) This is an action request. Please see paragraph 3.

2. (SBU) The regional FAS officer and EconOff delivered  
reftel demarche November 25 to First Deputy Agriculture  
Minister Ivo Hlavac. Hlavac agreed that food security is an  
important issue but had two concerns. First he asked whether  
there was sufficient time to prepare a GPAF meeting for the  
first half of 2009, noting that it usually took the UN at  
least six months to prepare its high-level meetings. Second,  
he was concerned over how GPAF would impact the FAO financial  
reform process. He noted that he had attended the FAO  
meeting last week at which the Czechs had helped launch a  
debate on FAO reform. The Czechs very much support efforts  
to streamline FAO finances and introduce greater transparency  
in FAO financial flows. He worried that creation of the GPAF  
was just another way to ask for a big budget outside of the  
FAO system.

3. (SBU) Post would welcome further information and points  
that we could share with Hlavac to address his concerns.  
Graber